

OPERATING PROCEDURE

ALTERED MENTAL STATUS/NON-TRAUMATIC ETIOLOGY

Effective Date: Revised:

November 1, 1986 October 1, 2000

Approved By:

Approved By Operational Medical Director:

Mal Frake

BLS

- 1. Perform initial patient assessment and obtain pertinent medical history.
- 2. Establish and maintain a patent airway, administer OXYGEN, and provide ventilatory assistance as required.
- 3. Obtain blood sugar level. (ALS providers may accomplish this while starting the IV)
- 4. If patient is conscious with patent airway and no complaint of nausea, administer ORAL GLUCOSE as needed.

ALS ONLY

- 5. Connect patient to cardiac monitor and document rhythm strip. Treat life-threatening dysrhythmias as outlined in appropriate protocol
- 6. Establish an IV using 0.9% Sodium Chloride Solution. Obtain a blood sample as described in OP 6.2.00.
- 7. Unless otherwise indicated, infuse the IV at a KVO rate

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- 8. If the patient presents with documented hypoglycemia and patient is symptomatic administer DEXTROSE:
 - \Box Adult: D₅₀ 25 grams/50cc (1 amp) IV Push
 - \Box Pediatric: D₂₅, or D_{12.5} at dosage recommended by the Broselow Resuscitation Tape
- 9. If the patient is a known or suspected alcoholic or if the patient appears otherwise malnourished, administer THIAMINE 100 mg IM prior to the administration of DEXTROSE.
- 10. After 5 to 10 minutes obtain post-DEXTROSE blood glucose level. If there is little or no change in the patient's mental status. Repeat IV DEXTROSE as needed, not to exceed two doses.
- 11. If unable to start an IV, patient is combative, or seizing administer GLUCAGON:
 - □ Adult: 1 mg IM
 - □ Pediatric: 0.5 mg IM
- 12. Administer NARCAN for any significant altered mental status or suspected drug overdose
 - □ Adult: 0.4 to 2 .0 mg IV, IM or SQ
 - □ Pediatric: 0.01 mg/kg IV, IM, or SQ. Dosage as recommended by the Broselow Resuscitation Tape may also be used.

NARCAN should be titrated to patient's respiratory status. Initial dose may be repeated as indicated, not to exceed two doses.

13. Intubate as indicated for decreased respiratory effort or as needed to protect and control the patient's airway.

MEDICAL CONTROL ONLY

- 14. If patient is hyperglycemic, rehydrate with IV 0.9% Sodium Chloride solution. Consult on-line medical control (OLMC) for infusion rate.
- 15. Repeat NARCAN, DEXTROSE, GLUCAGON or other medications as directed.
- 16. <u>In cases of suspected or documented acidosis, administer SODIUM BICARBONATE 1 mEq/kg IV push, or other dose as directed.</u>